



L A R C

FEBRUARY 2022

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ANYONE CAN BE AN ELMER

Elmers have been in ham radio for a long time and are subject matter experts. They are who you turn to when you start out and have questions concerning ham radio operation. This statement is partly true.

An elmer does not have to be someone who has been in the hobby a long time. You may be brand new to the hobby but have an expertise in an area that someone who has been operating for years struggles with.

As you progress through the hobby of ham radio you will find areas where you really excel. It

may be digital, it may be portable, it may be as a net control. When you find your niche don't be afraid to help people who have been in the hobby longer than you and also don't be afraid to guide someone who is brand new to the hobby because you think a more experienced person will take the reigns.

Anyone can be an elmer and everyone should be. Find what you like, learn about it, teach others what you know. It's that simple.

-Brad K5NFB



-Danny KD5JSM showing Larry KI5NTC an antenna design they are going to build.

DATES TO
REMEMBER

- General Meeting
Candyland Cottage
Feb. 3 at 7PM
- Orange Hamfest
Orange, LA
Feb. 26th
- Hamcation
Orlando, FL
Feb. 10-13

SCOUTS INTRODUCED TO HAM RADIO

On Sunday afternoon December 19, 2021 from 1:30 PM to 1:45 PM, Derek Meche WM5TS and Herman Campbell KN5GRK had a QSO with a couple of Boy Scouts on the 146.820 repeater. The first scout was Spencer age 13 and the other was

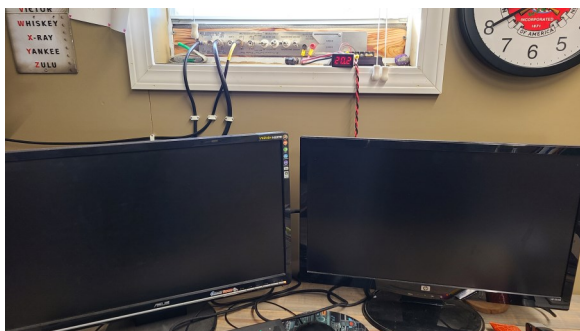
Justin. The conversation was about their favorite hobby and if they were interested into getting a ham radio license. Both said they had been scouts for about four years and loved being a scout. Justin said that one of his favorite

hobbies was swimming. Later Derek moved to the 20 meter band which proved to be too close for local communications.

-Herman KN5GRK

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT- CHRIS ANCELET -N5MCY

1. **How long have you been a member of the AARA?** March 2016 obtained Tech license at the Orange, TX Hamfest. Received General Class that same summer and then studied until the Rayne Hamfest of 2017 and obtained my Extra Class. Shortly thereafter, changed my original KG5MCY call sign to N5MCY.
2. **Why did you get into Ham Radio?** I was introduced to shortwave radio by a PHI Helicopter pilot while working offshore. He loaned, then gave me my first radio (Sony ICF-2010) and I was instantly hooked. I would utilize a piece of regular THHN 12ga. wire that had alligator clips on each end. One end was connected to my whip antenna and the other was connected to the metal skirting of the helipad on the platform I was stationed on. That provided me with great “ears” and frequently listened to Radio Japan and Radio Netherlands. After many years and radios, a friend encouraged me to go the next step and stop listening and start talking.
3. **What’s your AARA event and why?** I really enjoy the New Ham day and field day events. I am by no means an expert, but I do enjoy helping new hams form a better understanding of radio operations. Even though I am there to help, I tend to learn more about my own deficiencies.
4. **What’s the best piece of Ham Radio advice you’ve ever received?** “Just have fun. You are going to make mistakes...That is why we are called amateurs.”
5. **What is your favorite mode of operation?** Anything digital
6. **What is your most memorable Ham Radio contact?** A toss up between a voice contact to Reunion Island or my first contact to Antarctica
7. **What’s something about you not many people may know?** One of my other hobbies is Leather Working.
8. **What was the last book you read?** On book 3 of 10 in the A. American Home Series.
9. **If you had to eat one meal every day for the rest of your life, what would it be?** Anything Mexican



Chris Ancelet N5MCY Home Station

SILENT KEYS

It is always hard to hear of members and friends who have sent their last 73 and become silent keys. Sadly since the publishing of our last newsletter we have had a number of respected hams pass. Please keep the following silent key's families and friends in your thoughts and prayers.

Mel Simon-WD5CAE December 29, 2021

Jim Barron-WB5AAA January 22, 2022

Calvin Begnaud-KD5JCT January 25, 2022

Their voices will be missed on the airwaves.

LOCAL NETS

AARA Monday Night Net

Each Monday at 7:00 PM

146.82 Repeater

Silent Key Memorial Net

Each Wednesday at 7:00PM

146.82 Repeater

SKYWARN Net

Each Tuesday at 7:00 PM

147.040 Repeater

Rag Chew Net

Each Thursday at 8:00 PM

443.000 Repeater

All amateurs are
welcome and
encouraged to
check into these
Nets

VE TEST SESSION RESULTS

Jude Bernard KD5LTA- Upgrade to General

Darrell Mandella KF5DEV- Upgrade to General

Congratulations Gentlemen!!!



NEXT OP UP

On Tuesday evenings, the **Acadiana SkyWarn Net** normally takes place at 7:00 PM on the 147.040 repeater. After about a minute after the supposedly net start time, it appeared that we did not have anyone on frequency. Herman KN5GRK keyed up the repeater and asked: "Do we have a NCS on frequency"?. After a few seconds of silence, KN5GRK asked: "Do we have anyone on frequency for the **Acadiana SkyWarn Net**", two stations came back, Dave K5XDF and Randy KI5OQD. Herman then asked if either would volunteer to call the net. Randy volunteered but stated he had no prior experience in calling the net but would attempt to give it a try. The net kicked off about 4 minutes late.

Randy started the net with a improvised preamble and started taking check-ins from each of the four quadrants. Everything went smoothly with each person checking in and giving their locations with any noticeable weather observations from their locations. After everyone had checked in, Randy started asking each person for any comments for the net before closing the net.

The net ran 24 minutes with 10 check-ins. Those participating were: KI5OQD Randy NCS, K5XDF Dave, KN5GRK / K5LSA Herman, KI5SNC Jim, KI5GIY Jeremy, KI5GIC Jody, KD5LTA Jude, KI5KKI Tony and KI5AGS Ron.

The next morning at 5:45 AM, Herman KN5GRK e-mailed Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP, David McCutcheon KG5JHR, Randy Hernandez KI5OQD and Ed Roy WA5TNK with the net results. It seems that part of the SkyWarn training was to see what happens when a net control

station fails to show up to call the net. At 8:45 AM Wednesday morning, Herman KN5GRK, received the following e-mail from Glen KF5FNP:

I was on frequency for the entire net, I assumed the train would go off the track. It didn't. Randy, I want to thank you for stepping up as NCS. You did a great job considering you didn't have a script, any NCS training, and no warning this was coming. David XDF, roger you comment "sometimes you need to give those guys a break", spot on! In addition to giving the regulars a break it's about raising the capability of operators in the group so the group is not dependent on one or two people to function. Case in point, Hurricane Ida. LA ARES has over 400 members statewide and was unable to call a HF net when a CAT 4 Hurricane hit LA on a Sunday evening on a day and time they normally have their weekly HF net. WE DON'T WANT TO BE THAT GROUP.

-Glen KF5FNP

Glen KF5FNP and David KG5JHR are always coming up with some kind of training for our SkyWarn Net members such as, sending and

receiving traffic, proper HF / VHF radio operation and procedures, familiarizing the use of WinLink, FLDigi software and GOHSEP forms. Some

valuable information can be found on the W5DDL website at: <http://www.w5ddl.org/emcomm.htm>

February 2022

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		1	2	3 <i>Test Session 6PM</i> <i>Club Meeting 7PM</i>	4 GLYNN WA5TAQ ANN KA5QME STANLEY KI5NTF	5
6	7	8	9	10 <i>Hamcation Starts</i>	11	12
13 <i>Hamcation Ends</i>	14 JEREMY KI5NWI	15 GREG K5ZRA	16 GLENN KD5NVC	17	18 STEVE AF5VR	19
20 CHERYL KG5SIS	21	22	23	24 DANNY KD5JSM	25 KISHA KI5IHY	26 <i>Orange Hamfest</i>
27 ROSE W5RZY	28					

W5DDL.ORG

**ACADIANA AMATEUR
RADIO ASSOC., INC.**

P.O. Box 51174
Lafayette, LA 70505-1174

www.w5ddl.org



**A A R A I S D E D I C A T E D T O S E R V I N G T H E
A C A D I A N A R E G I O N O F S O U T H W E S T L O U I S I A N A**

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